



Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope

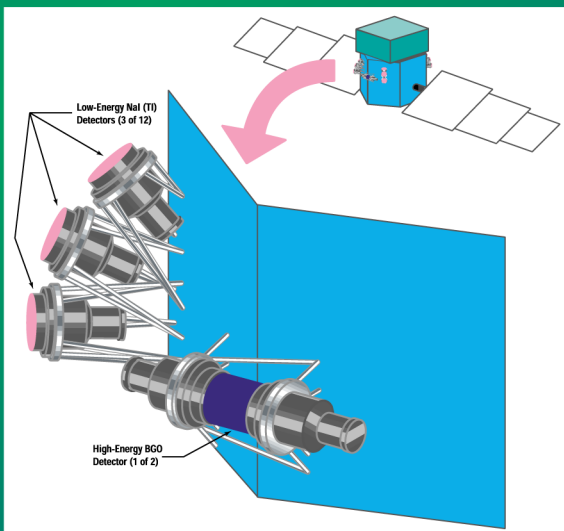


<http://glast.gsfc.nasa.gov>

The Gamma-ray Large Area Space Telescope (GLAST) is NASA's next generation high-energy gamma-ray astronomy mission scheduled for launch in 2005.

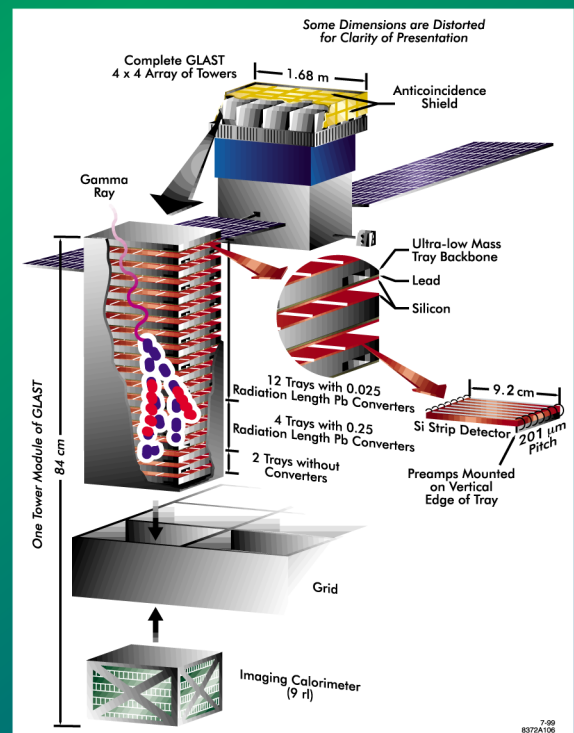


The GLAST Burst Monitor (GBM) is the secondary instrument aboard GLAST and will provide onboard gamma-ray burst triggers and locations. It will also extend the energy range for studying bursts down to ~ 5 keV.



Science Objectives

- Understand the mechanisms of particle acceleration in AGN, pulsars, and SNRs
- Understand the origins and mechanics of gamma-ray burst and other transients
- Use high-energy gamma-rays as probes of the early universe
- Probe the nature of Dark Matter
- Resolve the gamma-ray sky: unidentified EGRET sources and diffuse background



The Large Area Telescope (LAT) is a pair-conversion telescope, which uses layers of silicon strip detectors to track the electron-positron pairs created by an incident gamma-ray photon, and a cesium-iodide calorimeter for energy measurements. The LAT will be capable of detecting gamma-ray emission in the 20 MeV to 300 GeV energy range.